

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Aug/14/04 17:01 P. 001

B.Gopinath , Flat 301, Saralaramam Apts, 16-11-310-8, Salimnagar, Hyderabad-500036.
PH : 91-40-24553602. India.

| Application no. | Filing date | Inventor |
|-----------------|---------------|------------|
| 10 / 042,433 | Jan,10 , 2002 | B.Gopinath |

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

AUG 14 2004

OFFICIAL

Date : 14, August , 2004.

To,
The Commissioner for patents, USPTO. FAX : 703-872-9306.

Dear Sir,

This reply is in response to your office action letter dated 29, July, 2004.

Correlation between embodiments / species and claims.

Claim 11 - Generic claim for three embodiments described in the specification as received by you on May 17, 2004.

Claim 12- Multi knife cutting device , Rotary action- Embodiment 1, page 4,5 of specification.

Claim 13- Multi knife cutting device, Independent knife movement, Embodiment 2, Page 5,6.

Claim 14- Multi knife cutting device, Inclined cutting action, Embodiment 3, Page 7,8.

As of now there are only three embodiments in the specification as detailed above against the claims. All others were deleted.

Requirement for restriction, election of single species.

In response to this requirement, I am electing the embodiment titled " Multi knife cutting device, Inclined cutting action " described in page numbers 7,8 of the amended specification , with figure numbers 7 and 8. I am amending the claims of this embodiment to improve clarity as it is mentioned in your letter that it is not clear which species are being claimed. I will clarify which are the claims readable on the elected species.

Requirement of evidence that the species are not patentably distinct, likely rejection under 35 USC 103 (a).

I do not want to subject the invention to this risk as the possibilities of finding a prior art to one of the two non elected species cannot be ruled out. Also there can be conflicting views on whether a cited prior art is actually a prior art having all the features of the species under examination.

In view of this I have decided to delete from this application the two non elected species mentioned below. I will submit a separate application for them at a later date.

Embodiment 1- Multi knife cutting device, Rotary action,

Embodiment 2- Multi knife cutting device, Independent knife movement.

This will leave only embodiment 3, Multi knife cutting device, Inclined cutting action for examination as the elected species/ embodiment.

In view of the deletion of the two embodiments, I am changing the numbering of the embodiments and making changes in the text which become necessary following the deletion. All these are marked as per guidelines.

Amendments

- I am adding further evidence regarding the novel features of the elected embodiment no.3, to increase the eligibility for getting a patent. I have ensured that there is no new matter while doing this. I have only stated the obvious details. I request to make this a part of the specification. The replacement page indicates the location.
- I am enclosing the pages where the text for the deleted embodiments is there with strike through mark.
- I am also sending marked pages where changes are a consequence of the deletion of two embodiments.
- I am also enclosing the amended claims showing the deletions and amendments. As there is only one embodiment left, correlation of the claims should not be a problem.
- I have amended the drawing sheet number 3/3 to change the sheet number and figure numbers, in view of the deletion of sheet nos 1/3, 2/3 belonging to the deleted embodiments.

I have already indicated the election of the species of the invention to be examined, earlier in this letter. I am mailing the clean version of the specification. All the other documents are being faxed.

I request an early response by mail as to whether my actions above are as per rules and if there is any other obstacle for the examination to proceed.

Yours sincerely,



B. Gopinath.

Enclosures :

Amendment to claims

Marked text of the specification with deletions and amendments to elected embodiment as explained above.

Amended drawing sheet 3/3 which is now 1/1.

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- ☐ **BLACK BORDERS**
- ☐ **IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES**
- ☐ **FADED TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☐ **BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☐ **SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES**
- ☐ **COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS**
- ☐ **GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS**
- ☒ **LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT**
- ☐ **REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY**
- ☐ **OTHER:** _____

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.